

19th October 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Since I became Principal at CHPS in 2010 I have regularly received communication from the owners of the shops in Thames Promenade and the residents in the streets surrounding our school, looking to me for a solution to the traffic issues.

In response I have been working closely with the Kingston Council, Vic Roads, the Department of Education (DET), the local MPs, the local businesses in Thames Promenade and the Thames Promenade Action Group to address the issues we face as a community with traffic congestion, the lack of parking and in turn the impact on the safety of our students and their families.

Things we have achieved since 2010 are:

1. The flashing signs outside our school – (approx. 2012 – 2013)
2. The traffic lights immediately outside the school – (2014)
3. The roundabout at the end of Fifth Avenue – (2014)
4. The short term parking in the Wells Rd slipway to allow for “kiss and drop” by parents (2015 – 2016)

Since early 2016 - to address our school community's concerns relating to the limited parent parking - I have been working with the Mayor, Kingston Council, the local Member Tim Richardson, and the Department of Education (DET) in an attempt to release an area of Heights Park (which belongs to DET) for car parking.

In research completed with the local retailers we have estimated that 8 car parks have been lost on the north and south sides of Thames Promenade and 4 car parks lost in both 4th & 5th avenues giving a total of 16 car parks lost over the last 3 years, due to remedial road works carried out by Kingston Council and changes in parking restrictions respectively.

Some of the issues which have impacted greatly on available car parking spaces are as follows:

1. A reduction in available spaces due to an increase in No Standing areas, the new roundabout at the corner of Thames Promenade and 5th avenue, reduced parking on both sides of Thames Promenade due to pedestrian crossovers and traffic islands.
2. More parents driving to and from the Chelsea Heights Primary School which is creating major traffic congestion and parking issues. The school population has grown in the last 2 years and is now at its highest in a decade.
3. Businesses growing to remain viable and relevant have increased their hours of operation and the scope of services offered.
4. Greater parking requirements needed to cater for the increase in staff as businesses expand their hours, operations and services.

After much communication both face to face and written, over the last two years, this request has been refused. Due to this response I have had to take a different direction and in conjunction with Community Road Safety, Kingston Council four main initiatives will be launched to address our issues. One of these is the creation of a Kiss and Go area.

The new Kiss and Go signage has been erected on the Wells Road slip road behind our school oval. An explanation of how this initiative will work is explained in the next few pages. Michelle Galileos from Community Road Safety, Kingston Council, will also be speaking at next Monday's Assembly about all of the initiatives being introduced to address the traffic congestion issues around the school and is also available to answer any questions afterwards.

Local bylaws officers will be on Wells Rd regularly over the next few weeks to answer any questions and give support to the community with the introduction of the “Kiss and Go”.

Jane Satchwell
Principal

New Two Minute 'Kiss & Go' Zone

Chelsea Heights Primary School is working with Kingston City Council to improve the road safety of children and traffic congestion around the school.

The school will shortly be implementing a new school 'Drop-off, Pick-up' initiative. This is called a **Kiss & Go zone** which will be located on **Wells Road side road** outside the school. You may have noticed that signage has already been installed.

This Kiss & Go zone is a short term stopping area which will enable your child to walk between your car and the school, using the safety of the footpath.

You are allowed to stop and park your vehicle for **no longer than two minutes** while students exit or enter the vehicle from the kerbside doors.

The zone is a designated **No Parking area** where you are not able to go in to the school but you may get out of your car to see your child off, within the two minute timeframe. If you need to walk your child in or spend more time at school you must park in one of the surrounding streets.

The times of operation for the two minute parking zone are 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4pm on school days.

This zone is a benefit for all and is jointly supported by Chelsea Heights Primary School and Kingston City Council.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and streets safe.



Kiss and Go zone marked with **red line**.

It is also acceptable to park with all four wheels on the road – marked with **yellow line**.



Wells Road slip road

We have had confirmation from City of Kingston that you are allowed to park on the opposite side of the slip road **AS LONG AS ALL FOUR WHEELS ARE ON THE ROAD**. Council engineers assure us that the buses can get through.

KISS & GO ZONE

Understanding the rules

Kiss & Go zones are for your child's safety, your convenience and to minimise congestion and confusion.



Kiss & Go rules:

- Kiss & Go zones and 'No Parking' zones operate under the same conditions – may stop to drop off or pick up children for a maximum of 2 minutes.
- Driver must remain in or within 3 metres of the vehicle.
- Zone applies only during the hours of operation.

Remember

- **Do not leave your vehicle**
To assist with traffic flow, drivers should remain in the car whilst children get in and out. Children should travel with bags in the car (not in the boot).
- **Be timely**
If your child does not get in or out of the vehicle within 2 minutes you must leave and re-enter the Kiss & Go zone.
- **Stay in sequence**
Don't cut in queue. Drop off or pick up your child close to the top of the zone, allowing vehicles following you to enter the zone in an orderly manner.
- **Child safety**
Please ensure children get in or out of the vehicle on the kerb side. The back seat is the safest seat for children to travel in, regardless of the make of the vehicle. Ensure children have their restraints securely fastened before driving off.
- **No U-turns**
Do not do U-turn in busy school zones. They are dangerous and put children at risk.

Kiss & Go Zones need cooperation to ensure the safety of all children. Please drive carefully around school zones.

Thursday 19th October, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Next **Tuesday 24th October** we are launching our **Active Paths with Ride2School**. This will be a great morning to celebrate active travel. Active Paths have been implemented by the Ride2School program at Bicycle Network. The paths were chosen with input from students, parents and the council.

You might have already seen the decals on the footpaths around the school. There are four paths leading to the school. Active Paths work to eliminate common barriers such as parent concern and distance by providing a part-way option and encouraging community participation.

- Students, friends and parents can enjoy a social walk and ride together
- Students learn important road safety messages by observation
- Congestion can be reduced around the school

I encourage all of you to meet at the start of one of the paths and **walk, ride, scoot** or **skate** to school together.

When: Tuesday 24th October - meet at 8.20am to start walking and riding to school at 8.30am

Where: Meet at the start point of the path closest to you as shown on the map overleaf

The Bicycle Network would like to introduce this to the school community with a 20 minute **assembly in our gym just after 9am** so please come along and listen for more information.

Regards

Travis Stevenson
Health and Physical Education Teacher

Active Paths

Chelsea Heights Primary School

